



# California Redistricting Basics

[Wedrawthelines.ca.gov](http://Wedrawthelines.ca.gov)



# What is Redistricting?

**Drawing (and redrawing) the boundaries that determine which voters are represented by each electoral district.**



# Different Redistricting Efforts



**State**—Congressional, Board of Equalization, Senate and Assembly.



**Counties**—58 counties with their own process.



**Cities**—482 cities with their own process.

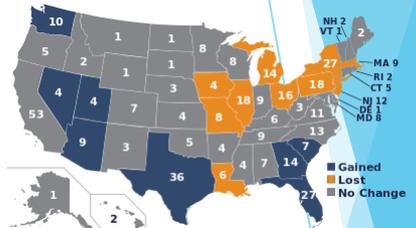


**School Districts**—977 school districts with their own process.



# Redistricting Factors

- ▶ **Census**—Every ten years the entire U.S. population is counted, and that data is used to draw new maps to account for population shifts across the states and districts.
- ▶ **Reapportionment** –The federal reallocation of House seats among the states, done after each national census to ensure seats are held by the states in proportion to the size of their population.
- ▶ **Fair Representation**—Historically, legislators have drawn maps that allowed them to choose their voters rather than enabling voters to choose their representatives. This former system undermined the concept of fair representation.



# Why We Redraw District Maps



- ▶ People are born, die, and move.
- ▶ Communities grow and shrink.
- ▶ Areas where there were once roughly the same number of people become lopsided.
- ▶ Communities change.



# Who we are

## ► 2020 Commissioners: 14 Members

• <b>Isra Ahmad</b> , San Jose, No Party Preference	• <b>Sara Sadhwani</b> , La Cañada Flintridge, Democrat
• <b>Linda Akutagawa</b> , Huntington Beach, No Party Preference	• <b>Patricia Sinay</b> , Encinitas, Democrat
• <b>Jane Andersen</b> , Berkeley, Republican	• <b>Derric Taylor</b> , Los Angeles, Republican
• <b>Alicia Fernández</b> , Clarksburg, Republican	• <b>Pedro Toledo</b> , Petaluma, No Party Preference
• <b>Neal Fornaciari</b> , Tracy, Republican	• <b>Trena Turner</b> , Stockton, Democrat
• <b>J. Ray Kennedy</b> , Morongo Valley, Democrat	• <b>Angela Vázquez</b> , Los Angeles, Democrat
• <b>Antonio Le Mons</b> , Studio City, No Party Preference	• <b>Russell Yee</b> , Oakland, Republican



# Commissioner Duties

- ▶ **Community Outreach/Public Input Meetings**
- ▶ **Drawing Maps**--draft and final maps for Congress (~53), Board of Equalization (4), Senate (40) and Assembly (80)

## EXAMPLE: SACRAMENTO

### BOE

(9 million people)



### CONGRESS

(700,000 people)



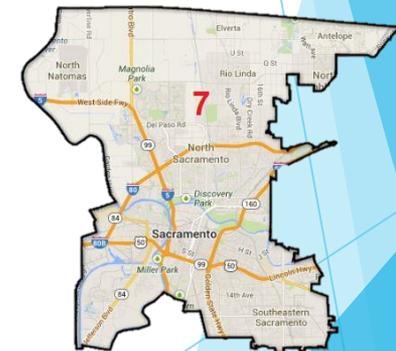
### SENATE

(931,000 people)



### ASSEMBLY

(466,000 people)



# 6 Line Drawing Criteria

The Commission must follow these criteria when drawing district maps:

1. **Equal population**
2. **Comply with the Voting Rights Act**
3. **Contiguous districts**
4. **Respect the boundaries of cities, counties, neighborhoods and communities of interest**
5. **Geographically compact**
6. **Nesting districts**





## 6 Things to Consider When Drawing the Lines

2020 CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

<div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  <b>Equal Population</b> </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">1. Districts must be of equal population to comply with the US Constitution.</p>	<div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  <b>Voting Rights Act</b> </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">2. Districts must comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities have an equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.</p>
<div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  <b>Contiguity</b> </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">3. Districts must be contiguous so that all parts of the district are connected to each other.</p>	<div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  <b>Communities of Interest</b> </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">4. Districts must respect the boundaries of cities, counties, neighborhoods and communities of interest, and minimize their division, to the extent possible.</p>
<div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  <b>Geographically Compact</b> </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">5. Districts should be geographically compact, that is, have a fairly regular shape.</p>	<div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  <b>Nesting Districts</b> </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">6. Where practicable each Senate District should be comprised of two complete and adjacent Assembly Districts and Board of Equalization districts shall be composed of 10 complete and adjacent State Senate Districts.</p>



For more information about the California Citizen Redistricting Commission, visit us at [wedrawthelines.ca.gov](http://wedrawthelines.ca.gov)



# Participating in the Process

- ▶ Familiarize Yourself with Criteria
- ▶ Organize Your Community
- ▶ Clarify Your Goals
- ▶ Testify at Hearings and/or submit your comments to the Commission
- ▶ Advocate for Your Community

**DEFINE YOUR COMMUNITY OR  
SOMEONE ELSE WILL!**



# Draw My Community Tool / COI Tool

- ▶ Communities of Interest (COI) Mapping Tool
- ▶ Submit Your COI Directly to the Commission

Draw My CA Community  Languages 

## My Community

1. Describe your community 

Give your community a name\*  
Required

Tell us about your community. What are your shared interests? What brings you together? What is important to your community?\*

Required

3. Submit your community




# Timeline

- ▶ **February-March:** Education Meetings
- ▶ **March-June:** Public Input Meetings (COI)
- ▶ **June:** Line Drawing Sessions (Pre maps)
- ▶ **June:** Draft Maps Released
- ▶ **July-August:** Public Input Meetings (COI)/Line Drawing Sessions
- ▶ **August 15:** Final Maps to Secretary of State\*

\*May change due to census data delays.



# Contact Us

To request an informational session, please contact the Commission.

**California Citizens Redistricting Commission**  
**721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**  
**(916)323-0323**  
[Marcy.Kaplan@crc.ca.gov](mailto:Marcy.Kaplan@crc.ca.gov)

For more information about the Commission, please visit:  
**[Wedrawthelines.ca.gov](http://Wedrawthelines.ca.gov)**



[@WeDrawtheLinesCA](https://www.instagram.com/WeDrawtheLinesCA)

